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Attorney Docket No. ATI-290

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: Ilan, Ruth Art Unit: 3616
Re: Application of: David S. Breed et al.
Serial No.: 10/043,557
Filed: January 11, 2002
For: Inflator System
Confirmation No.: 9120
Customer Number: 22846

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop With Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

11/17/2004 WILLIAM 4002/1/11
01 FC:2202 2022:CF 20
36.00 DA 132.00 DA
September 29, 2004
75554001 992005 50000000

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 29, 2004 which set a three-month shortened statutory period for reply expiring on September 29, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this amendment.

Remarks/Argument begin on page 14 of this amendment.

FIRST CLASS MAIL CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this correspondence and/or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" on September 29, 2004.

Brian Roffe

Cuevas describes an inflator module 10 including a propellant block 40 which is surrounded by a wall 62. The inflator module 10 is installed within the dashboard of the vehicle (see Fig. 1). There is no space between the propellant 40 and the wall 62 in the inflator of Cuevas.

Witte does not provide details of the inflator.

Since Martin, Schafer, Cuevas and Witte do not disclose all of the features now set forth in independent claims 1, 15, 16, 28, 29, 35, 39 and 48-50, one skilled in the art could not combine them to render obvious the embodiments of the invention set forth in these claims or in claims dependent therefrom. As such, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) have been overcome and should be removed.

New Claims

Claims 51-54 are presented herein. Claim 51 includes subject matter previously set forth in claim 35. Claims 52-54 include subject matter from claims 20, 26 and 44, respectively, which the Examiner indicated would be allowable over the prior art of record.

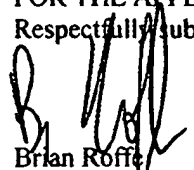
The extra claims fee of \$36 for presenting four additional claims and \$129 for presenting three additional independent claims in excess of three should be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0266.

Interview Request

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned to discuss this application in order to advance the prosecution of this application if in the Examiner's opinion, the application can be allowed in view of the arguments set forth.

An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

FOR THE APPLICANT
Respectfully submitted,


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